INFORMATION LETTER

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W. D. Lewis Appointed Secretary of C.M.&S.A.

Appointment of W. D. (Dave) Lewis as Secretary-Treasurer of the Canning Machinery & Supplies Association has been announced by Hal W. Johnston, C.M.&S.A. president, following a meeting of the board of directors in Battle Creek, Mich., August 26.

Mr. Lewis succeeds to the position held so many years by the late S. G. (Sam) Gorsline, whose death was reported in last week's issue of the INFORMATION LETTER. The C.M.&S.A. headquarters office will be continued in Battle Creek, Mr. Johnston stated.

He reported also that at the directors' meeting, which followed the

(Please turn to page 249)

Peas and Green Beans for USDA

The U. S. Department of Agriculture on August 21 reissued an offer to buy canned green snap beans and canned green peas from the 1952 pack for use in the National School Lunch Program. The offer was reissued since insufficient quantities were offered at acceptable prices in response to the Department's original announcement on July 28.

Purchases of canned green beans under the original announcement consisted of 41,230 cases of No. 303's at an average price of $2.60 per case and 54,440 cases of No. 10's at an average price of $3.84 per case. Purchases of canned green peas consisted of 86,500 cases of No. 303's at an average price of $2.47 per case and 44,760 cases of No. 10's at an average price of $3.51 per case. All of the above prices are exclusive of cash discounts.

Offers again will be considered on No. 10, No. 2, and No. 303 can sizes, but No. 10's are preferred. Purchases will be made on an offer-and-acceptance basis.

Invitations to offer canned green snap beans and canned green peas for school lunch use, including detailed specifications, are being mailed to all known green bean and green pea canners.

OPS Action Expected Soon on Decontrol and Suspension Of Canned Foods, and Pass-through on Higher Can Costs

Several ceiling price amendments of concern to canners are being prepared for issuance soon by OPS. Foremost of these is an amendment to GOR 7 providing decontrol, suspension, and exemption for various foods.

Another regulation, being rushed to completion, would provide a pass-through to all manufacturers for increases in metals costs, including price increases recently authorized by OPS for steel, copper, and aluminum.

The agency is also working on pass-throughs for increased labor and transportation costs.

Canned Foods Pricing

OPS action further implementing the so-called Harrison amendment to the Defense Production Act is expected soon. The order reportedly has been drafted as an amendment to GOR 7, to accomplish three things:

First, the amendment would add to the list of commodities which OPS recognizes are clearly covered by the Harrison amendment, exempting "fruits or vegetables in fresh or processed form" from price control.

Second, it would suspend ceiling prices on certain processed foods that are selling well below ceilings and not threatening to push ceiling.

Third, it would exempt certain foods considered by OPS to be insignificant to the cost of living.

The decontrol provisions would be retroactive to July 1.

Materials Pass-through

The OPS standard for materials pass-through will permit all manufacturers to pass on increased ma-

(Please turn to page 250)

BAE Forecasts Stable Prices For Canned Fruits and Juices

Retail prices of canned fruits are expected to remain stable throughout this summer and fall, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

In its August 27 issue of *The Fruit Situation*, BAE states:

"Ceiling prices on fruits in fresh or processed form are prohibited by the amended Defense Production Act of 1950. However, no general price increases are expected for canned fruits this summer and fall. Some items may even sell for lower prices. During the 1951-52 season, market prices for most canned fruits have been somewhat below ceilings."

[From June 30 to August 15, almost one-half of all canned fruit items studied by the N.C.A. Division of Statistics actually decreased in price at the cannery level (see INFORMATION LETTER of August 23, page 243).]

Of prices to growers, BAE said:

"With demand for canning reduced because of larger carryover stocks, grower prices for most deciduous fruits during late summer and fall probably will average about the same as, or lower than, a year earlier, even though total deciduous production is smaller. Apple prices are the main exception. They are expected to continue above 1951 levels as a result of smaller production and stronger demand for processing."

BAE noted that production of each of the major deciduous fruits is smaller than in 1951 except sweet cherries. Total output is expected to be about 10 percent smaller than the 1951 crop and 6 percent under the 1941-50 average.

Commercial production of canned fruits in the United States in 1952

(Please turn to page 249)

Tighe Woods Heads OPS

Tighe E. Woods has been appointed Director of Price Stabilization, effective September 1. He has been serving in Washington as Housing Expediter.

Mr. Woods succeeds Ellis G. Arnall, whose appointment to the OPS position was confirmed by the Senate last February 18.

PUBLICITY

Family Circle Magazine

September's issue of *Family Circle* magazine, sold in Safeway stores throughout the country, has two articles of interest to the canning industry.

The article entitled "Look! They're All Made with Corned-Beef Hash" by Grace White, food editor, features six recipes using canned corn beef hash. All of the recipes are shown in either color or black-and-white photographs. The author says that corned beef hash means "budget-easy, fix-easy, serve-easy main courses." Pineapple, condensed tomato soup, corn, kidney beans and catsup are other canned foods used in the recipes.

Homemaking Editor Julia Lee Wright, author of "Upside-down Desserts," features canned fruits in three of the five recipes in her article. Crushed pineapple and canned sliced apples are used in the recipe "Bottom's-Up Pine-Apple Pie," which is pictured in a full-page color photograph at the beginning of the article. Canned apricots and peaches are used in two of the other dessert recipes.

Good Housekeeping Magazine

Latest in the series of complete cook book sections that have appeared in the *Good Housekeeping* magazine is the "Casserole Cook Book" in the September issue. There are 94 recipes, 56 menus, and many interesting photographs included in the collection of articles on casserole dishes.

About the recipes, in which canned foods are generously used, the authors say: "Each one has been brought to mouth-watering perfection in Good Housekeeping Institute's kitchens, and each one is as economical of time, effort, and dishwashing as our experts could make it." There are 118 uses of canned foods in the recipes and menus.

True Story Magazine

"Keep a supply on hand—it's a short-cut to good cooking," says the subtitle of the article, "We Like To Cook with Canned Soups," in the September issue of *True Story* magazine.

The article begins: "Canned soup can strengthen gravy, brighten color, stretch left-over meat. These recipes demonstrate well the endless variety of ways *True Story* readers have found to use this good product."

In the six recipes, sent in by readers of the magazine, the following canned foods are used: condensed tomato soup, condensed beef bouillon, cream of chicken soup, cream of mushroom soup, tomatoes, corn, chicken, tuna, green beans, and luncheon meat.

Canned Vegetables and Fish

The second of a series of articles on canned foods has appeared in the Chicago Sunday *Tribune*. The articles also were published in the Washington *Times-Herald*.

The first article by Mary Meade, food editor, was entitled "Canned Vegetables Still Cook's Indispensable Aid." In the introduction, Miss Meade states:

"A pantry not stocked with canned baked beans, green beans, tomatoes, corn and peas is no pantry at all. It will be a better pantry if there are also some cans of asparagus, lima beans, kidney beans, beets, sweet and white potatoes, spinach, sauerkraut, pumpkin, and several cans of accessory vegetables like pimientos and mushrooms which do so much to add appetite appeal to other vegetable dishes.

"You've got eating insurance when there are canned vegetables in the pantry.

"Except for the low sodium vegetables canned for special diets, canned vegetables are so well seasoned that for the most part you can just heat and eat. But they're more interesting if you mix them up a bit."

Then follows several recipes using canned vegetables.

The second article, "Wide Variety of Canned Fish Facilitates Quick Meals," lists 14 canned fish. In the discussion preceding the recipes, Mary Meade says:

"Most of the canned fish can be prepared for the table with little more than a chilling and a brief encounter with a can opener. Chill salmon in the can for example, then turn it onto a platter lined with greens, garnish with sliced tomatoes and cucumbers, accompany with mayonnaise, and you have an excellent entree for a summer luncheon. Turn the lobster or shrimp into a white sauce, nicely seasoned, and add a little chopped onion, parsley, and a few spoonsful of sherry. Heat and serve on toast, or turn into shells, top with cheese and broil until bubbly.

"Pick the cartilage out of a can of crabmeat and combine it with mayonnaise and chopped celery to fill avocado halves.

"Chill sardines and turn them out of the can in neat rows on a platter with potato salad. Brown the codfish cakes in butter and serve them with cream sauce for breakfast."

Four recipes are given in the article.

N.C.A. Press Release on Canned Foods Prices

To keep the public informed on the favorable price position of canned foods, particularly as reflected in the retail price index for July just published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the N.C.A. last week issued the following press release:

Washington, D. C. (August 22, 1952)—When Price Stabilizer Ellis Arnall says that the cost of food is rising, he refers to the foods still under price control, according to the National Canners Association.

Retail food prices rose 3.4 points from June to July, but contrary to statements by Mr. Arnall, the foods decontrolled by Congress are not accounting for the major increase. Instead, the foods over which OPS still exercises some form of price control accounted for almost 75 percent (74.5 percent) of the July rise in food prices.

Fred C. Heinz, vice president of the H. J. Heinz Company, Pittsburgh, and president of the National Canners Association, pointed out that the foods decontrolled since June 30 accounted for only 7.5 percent of the food price increase last month, while foods never subject to price control represented only 18 percent of the increase.

Mr. Heinz said that these facts, contradicting recent public statements by Mr. Arnall, demonstrate that canned foods prices are not exercising any inflationary pressure.

The relative proportions of the rise in retail food prices from June to July, from 231.5 to 234.9 percent of the prewar base, contributed by the various food groups are as follows:

Decontrolled Items:	(percent)
Potatoes	4.0
Fats and oils, processed fruits and vegetables	3.5
Total	7.5
Controlled Items:	**(percent)**
Eggs	57.0
Dairy products	13.0
Cereal and bakery products	3.5
All others	1.0
Total	74.5
Never under Control:	**(percent)**
Fresh fruits and vegetables (except potatoes)	18.0
Total	18.0

* * *

[The contribution of canned fruits and vegetables to the July rise in food prices was less than two-tenths of one percent. Fats and oils contributed three-tenths of one percent to the food price rise, and other processed fruits and vegetables accounted for the balance. It is difficult to calculate with accuracy the contribution of frozen foods because BLS uses December, 1950, as a base for these items instead of the 1935-39 average used for all other items.]

Invitations for Bids

Quartermaster Purchasing Offices—111 East 16th Street, New York 3, N. Y.; 1819 West Pershing Road, Chicago 9, Ill.; Oakland Army Base, Oakland 14, Calif.

Veterans Administration—Procurement Division, Veterans Administration, Wash. 25, D. C.

The Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act will apply to all operations performed after the date of notice of award if the total value of a contract is $10,000 or over.

The QMC has invited sealed bids to furnish the following:

PIMIENTOS—1,722 dozen No. 2½ cans. Bids due in Chicago under QM-11-009-53-137 by Sept. 18.

The Veterans Administration has invited sealed bids to furnish the following:

TOMATO PRODUCTS—10,250 dozen No. 10 cans of tomato puree and 14,500 dozen No. 10 cans of tomato juice, or equivalent in other size cans, in commercial labels. Bids due under S-39 by Sept. 9.

PINEAPPLE JUICE—11,000 dozen No. 10 cans, or equivalent in 46-oz. cans, in commercial labels. Bids due under S-40 by Sept. 9.

SUPPLIES

RFC Tin Programs

An Office of Tin and Fiber has been established in the RFC to handle tin purchases, operation of the smelter at Texas City, Tex., and for the RFC's abaca program.

Director of the new unit is Wylie F. McKinnon, who has been chief of the RFC tin division since creation of that unit four years ago. Chief of the tin division in the Office of Tin and Fiber is Edward P. Chapman.

Revised Industry Standards For Fiber Boxes

Printed copies of Simplified Practice Recommendation R146-52, Corrugated and Solid Fiber Boxes for Canned Fruits and Vegetables, are available, it is announced by the Commodity Standards Division of the Office of Industry and Commerce, U. S. Department of Commerce.

This recommendation lists sizes of corrugated and solid fiber shipping boxes that are considered adequate and suitable for the shipment of canned fruits and vegetables in the 32 sizes of cans adopted as standards by the canning industry (R155-49).

The Commerce Department explains that the standard sizes for shipping boxes, with inside dimensions for width and length 1/16 inch less than formerly recommended in Simplified Practice Recommendation R146-41, are intended (a) to provide a tighter pack to reduce the risk of dents and label damage on cans caused by a loose pack, (b) to prevent bulging of boxes in warehouses and in box cars, and (c) to guard against the accumulation of slack space in cars due to compressions of oversize boxes caused by shocks in transportation, which results in creasing and crushing of boxes.

Printed copies of Simplified Practice Recommendation R146-52 may be obtained from the Government Printing Office for 5 cents each.

STATISTICS

Canned Baby Food Stocks

Details of the canned baby food supply, stock and shipment situation are reported by the N.C.A. Division of Statistics as follows:

	1951	1952
	(thousands of dozens)	
Canner stocks, Jan. 1	62,453	57,522
Pack, Jan. through July	63,417	65,257
Supply	125,870	122,779
Canner stocks, Aug. 1	52,241	40,761
Canner shipments, July	11,128	13,278
Canner shipments, Jan. through July	73,629	82,018

Tomatoes for Processing

The Bureau of Agricultural Economics has issued a correction to its August 11 report on indicated production of tomatoes for processing (see INFORMATION LETTER of August 16, page 238).

The indicated production of tomatoes for processing in Indiana was reported at 206,200 tons and should read 316,200 tons. The 1952 production in that state would be 46 percent below the 1951 production.

The indicated production for the United States as a whole should read 3,238,600 tons. On the basis of this correction, the 1952 production indicated on August 1 would be 28.1 percent below last year.

Prices for Canned Fruits

(Concluded from page 247)

probably will be about one-tenth smaller than the record 1951 pack, according to BAE. Even so, it would be the third or fourth largest pack of record.

Output of canned fruit juices probably will be slightly under 2 billion pounds in 1952, or the equivalent of about 66 million cases of 24/2's, BAE said. The 1951 pack was over 2.4 billion pounds.

TRAFFIC

Motor Carrier Freight Statistics

Notice is given in the *Federal Register* of August 19 that the Interstate Commerce Commission proposes to require Class I common and contract motor carriers to compile and report annually certain freight traffic statistics according to commodity, beginning January 1, 1953. One of the classes of commodities for which reports are proposed is No. 763, "Food Products, N.O.S., in Cans and Packages, Not Frozen."

The statistics to be derived by the ICC from motor carriers' reports would parallel those already available for some years on railroad freight.

Secretary of C.M.&S.A.

(Concluded from page 247)

Gorsline funeral services, plans were forwarded for the 1953 Convention and Exhibit in Chicago. Mr. Johnston said that the exhibit space is completely booked and that other plans are well along, including the scheduling of the annual Dinner Dance for Tuesday night, February 24.

Appointment of Mr. Lewis is effective immediately, Mr. Johnston stated. Mr. Lewis has been serving C.M.&S.A. as the late Mr. Gorsline's assistant since May. Prior to that time he had been assistant to the Secretary of the National Canners Association, with duties in connection with membership and later with defense priorities and materials controls. He joined the N.C.A. in 1946 as a sanitarian in the Western Branch Laboratory in San Francisco.

A graduate of high school in Albuquerque, N. M., Mr. Lewis was awarded his B.S. degree at the University of New Mexico in 1935. Subsequently, he did intensive training in sanitation at the University of California. In 1941-43 he was engaged in postgraduate studies in civil engineering at the University of New Mexico.

His first employment was as a sanitarian with the New Mexico State Department of Health. From 1944 to 1946 he served with the U. S. Public Health Service.

Information Letter Schedule

Because of the Labor Day holiday, it was necessary to close the deadline on this issue of the INFORMATION LETTER more than 24 hours earlier than usual. Every effort has been made to report all of the week's developments as of press-time.

DEFENSE

Salary Regulation 1, Amended

General Salary Stabilization Regulation 1, Amended, was issued by the Salary Stabilization Board on August 18, incorporating changes required by the Defense Production Act Amendments of 1952 and including substantive changes in policy.

Changes required by law include the salary exemption for "small-business enterprises." Substantive changes in policy include new provisions relating to compensation for a regularly extended workweek. In addition, GSSR 1, Amended, combines in one document all salary stabilization policies relating to general adjustments in salaries, adjustments to maintain compensation relationships between groups of employees and to avoid hardships and inequities, and adjustments for individual employees in the form of merit or length-of-service increases, promotions, transfers, and other changes in position.

GSSR 1, Amended, was published in the *Federal Register* of August 19. Copies of the regulation are available from the Office of Salary Stabilization, Washington 25, D. C., from its field offices, or from the wage and hour offices of the Labor Department.

Salary Regulation 5, Amended

By Amendment 1 to General Salary Stabilization Regulation 5, the Office of Salary Stabilization has made new provisions for adjustments for employees compensated through commissions.

The amendment is designed to permit increases for sales employees who have received no increase in their earnings since January 25, 1951.

The amendment was published in the *Federal Register* of August 27. Copies of the amendment are available from the Office of Salary Stabilization or from the Labor Department.

OPS Action Expected Soon

(Concluded from page 247)

materials costs. Price Stabilizer Ellis Arnall disclosed on August 27 that each fabricator of the basic metals will be allowed to pass on the actual increase in costs of the three metals—steel, copper, and aluminum. Each fabricator will be required to notify his customers of the amount by which his ceilings are increased, so that they in turn may pass on the higher costs to their customers.

The pass-through regulation presumably would be of benefit to canners whose products remain under price control, by permitting them to pass-through increased can costs, which might become effective in September. The pass-through also might result in higher prices for some items of canning machinery and supplies.

Mr. Arnall said that the pass-through regulation probaby will be issued next week.

Other Pass-throughs

OPS officials reportedly have found even greater difficulty in agreeing on a formula for pass-throughs on increased labor and transportation costs.

It was decided at one time that there would be no 100 percent pass-through on labor costs because this would be an invitation for more pay demands.

A formula for pass-through on transportation costs is complicated by the widely varying rates and increases across the country. OPS has indicated that increased transportation costs will have to be partially absorbed.

Because of pressure on the agency to issue the materials pass-through standard, it is not known whether the labor and transportation pass-throughs will be made a part of the same regulation or will be issued separately at a later date.

FOREIGN TRADE

Canning in Venezuela

The following was published in the August 18 issue of *Foreign Commerce Weekly*, official publication of the U. S. Department of Commerce:

"The Industrias Pampero of Venezuela will invest 2,200,000 bolivares ($660,000) for the construction of three new canning plants, one in Maracay to process tomatoes and other local crops, one in Barquisimeto to process pineapples, and one in Maracaibo to process shrimp and fish.

"The plant at Ocumara del Tay will be expanded and new machinery installed so that shortly after the beginning of 1953 Industrias Pampero will have four modern plants for preserving the produce of the country. Local capital is invited to participate in construction of the plants.

"According to the Venezuelan press, Venezuela imports large quantities of canned foods from the United States, much of which could be produced locally."

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PAGE

Defense

OPS action expected soon on decontrol and suspension of canned foods, and pass-through on higher can costs 247
Tighe Woods heads OPS 247
Salary regulation 1, amended ... 250
Salary regulation 5, amended ... 250

Personnel

W. D. Lewis appointed secretary of C.M.&S.A. 247

Procurement

Peas and green beans for USDA 247
Invitations for bids 249

Statistics

BAE forecasts stable prices for canned fruits and juices 247
Canned baby food stocks 249
Tomatoes for processing 249

PAGE

Publicity

Family Circle magazine 248
Good Housekeeping magazine ... 248
True Story magazine 248
Canned vegetables and fish 248

Association Activities

N.C.A. press release on canned foods prices 248
Information Letter schedule 250

Supplies

RFC tin programs 249
Revised industry standards for fiber boxes 249

Traffic

Motor carrier freight statistics .. 249

Foreign Trade

Canning in Venezuela 250